

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of recording and reproducing information in which a recording area of a recording medium is physically divided into ~~small pages~~plurality of blocks and ~~is also each block is~~ partitioned into ~~physical blocks each having a plurality of the pages so that information recorded in the page is erased in units of each block containing the page, the method~~plurality of pages comprising a steps of:

recording and erasing information in at least one of the pages in units of blocks;
~~upon allocation to the block of a specific area where information is frequently changed,~~
~~allocating the specific area to the page or pages in the block and disabling remaining pages in the same block as where the specific area is allocated although the remaining pages are unused.~~

allocating a specific area having a frequently changing information to a first block of the plurality of block; and

disabling remaining pages in the first block when said allocating step allocates the frequently changing information to the first block.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein ~~the specific area~~the frequently changing information is ~~an area for~~at least one of managing data recorded in the recording medium, FAT, and root directory information.

3. (Original) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein the page is provided with an area for recording area management information including information indicating that the specific area has been allocated, information indicating the disablement of the page although unused, information indicating an unused area, and information indicating an ordinary recording area.

4. (Original) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 2, wherein the page is provided with an area for recording area management information including

information indicating that the specific area has been allocated, information indicating the disablement of the page although unused, information indicating an unused area, and information indicating an ordinary recording area.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 2, further comprising steps of:

upon recording of information into the recording medium;
allocating ~~the an unused~~ block ~~being unused~~ to a logical space and recording information into the first block;

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;
recording the modified data management area into another unused block in the recording medium; and

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the first block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the ~~block~~-unused block.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 3, further comprising steps of:

~~upon~~-recording of information into the recording medium;
allocating ~~the an unused~~ block ~~being unused~~ to a logical space and recording information into the first block;

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;
recording the modified data management area into another unused block in the recording medium; and

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the first block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the ~~block~~-unused block.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 4, further comprising steps of:

~~upon~~-recording of information into the recording medium;

allocating ~~the~~an unused block ~~being unused~~ to a logical space and recording information into the first block;

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;

recording the modified data management area into another unused block in the recording medium; and

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the first block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the ~~block~~-unused block.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 2, further comprising steps of:

~~upon~~ erasing of information in the recording medium;

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;

recording the modified data management area into ~~the~~an unused block ~~being unused~~ in the recording medium;

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the first block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the ~~block~~-unused block; and

erasing the information to be deleted, and turning the first block where the information has resided, into the ~~block~~-unused block.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 3, further comprising steps of:

~~upon~~ erasing of information in the recording medium;

reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;

recording the modified data management area into ~~the~~an unused block ~~being unused~~ in the recording medium;

erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the first block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the ~~block~~-unused block; and

erasing the information to be deleted, and turning the first block where the information has resided, into the ~~block~~-unused block.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 4, further comprising steps of:

- ~~upon~~erasing of information in the recording medium;
- reading and modifying contents of the data management area in the recording medium;
- recording the modified data management area into the an unused block ~~being unused in~~ the recording medium;
- erasing the data management area before modified, and turning the first block where the data management area before modified has resided, into the ~~block-unused~~ block; and
- erasing the information to be deleted, and turning the first block where the information has resided, into the ~~block-unused~~ block.

11. (New) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein the first block contains the page corresponding to a FAT area, information a high-speed recording area (0x55) is recorded into the area management information in the page corresponding to the FAT area.

12. (New) The method of recording and reproducing information according to any of claims 5 through 7, further comprising recording a logical address in a logical address part in each page.

13. (New) The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein said allocating the specific area distinguishes the specific area having a frequently changing information from an ordinary data area, so as to reduce amount of data modification of the specific area.